

effective cross-governmental efforts to address the root causes of institutional racism and their downstream impacts; and

Whereas such declaration requires the response of the Government to engage significant resources to empower those communities that are impacted: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the resolutions drafted, introduced, and adopted by cities and localities across the United States declaring racism a public health crisis;

(2) declares racism a public health crisis in the United States;

(3) commits to—

(A) establishing a nationwide strategy to address health disparities and inequity across all sectors in society;

(B) dismantling systemic practices and policies that perpetuate racism;

(C) advancing reforms to address years of neglectful and apathetic policies that have led to poor health outcomes for communities of color; and

(D) promoting efforts to address the social determinants of health—especially for Black, Latino, and Native American people in the United States, and other people of color; and

(4) places a charge on the people of the United States to move forward with urgency to ensure that the United States stands firmly in honoring its moral purpose of advancing the self-evident truths that all people are created equal, that they are endowed with certain unalienable rights, and that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 173—COM-
MENDING THE ACTIONS OF
CUBAN DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN
RIGHTS ACTIVIST JOSÉ DANIEL
FERRER GARCÍA AND THE PRO-
DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN
RIGHTS GROUP, THE PATRIOTIC
UNION OF CUBA (UNPACU), TO
UPHOLD FUNDAMENTAL FREE-
DOMS IN CUBA AND CON-
DEMNING CUBA'S BRUTAL AU-
THORITARIAN COMMUNIST RE-
GIME**

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. RUBIO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 173

Whereas José Daniel Ferrer García is a Cuban democracy and human rights activist who has worked tirelessly to ensure fundamental freedoms for the Cuban people;

Whereas José Daniel Ferrer García was born in Cuba on July 29, 1970, in Santiago de Cuba and has spent most of his adult life fighting for Cubans to have a voice in the matters of their own country and against Cuba's brutal authoritarian Communist dictatorship;

Whereas Cuba's authoritarian Communist regime retaliated against José Daniel Ferrer García over decades by repeatedly imprisoning, beating, and torturing him and constantly threatening and harassing his family and members of the pro-democracy and human rights group that he founded, the Patriotic Union of Cuba (UNPACU);

Whereas, in March 2021, Cuba's brutal authoritarian Communist regime committed the latest human rights violation against José Daniel Ferrer García and members of UNPACU, as Cuban security forces harassed

them, kept them from meeting, and blocked their attempts to distribute aid, food, and medical care to fellow desperate residents of Santiago de Cuba;

Whereas, on March 20, 2021, José Daniel Ferrer García and other courageous members of UNPACU began a hunger strike to protest the constant harassment, human rights violations, and the police siege of the headquarters of UNPACU in Santiago de Cuba;

Whereas the hunger strike underscored the importance of defending the right of the members of UNPACU to deliver food and medication to a group of approximately 250 residents of Santiago de Cuba as the need for aid, food, medicine, and basic necessities has risen during the global pandemic; and

Whereas, on April 10, 2021, José Daniel Ferrer García and several activists from UNPACU ended the hunger strike after 21 days after Cuban security forces lifted the police siege on the headquarters of UNPACU in Santiago de Cuba: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the actions of José Daniel Ferrer García and his unyielding resolve to advance democracy and defend freedoms and human rights for the Cuban people;

(2) honors the vital contribution and humanitarian efforts of the Patriotic Union of Cuba (UNPACU) and all of its members for their tireless work to defend fundamental freedoms and human rights in Cuba;

(3) condemns the repression of José Daniel Ferrer García and other brave Cuban activists;

(4) condemns Cuba's brutal authoritarian Communist dictatorship and demands an end to the suffering of the Cuban people and the impunity of the regime's human rights abusers, including Miguel Diaz-Canel and Raúl Castro;

(5) calls for the international community to stand with the Cuban people and against Cuba's authoritarian Communist regime for infringing on the freedom of thought, expression, assembly, association, and prosperity of the Cuban people; and

(6) commends the courage of the pro-democracy movement and activists in Cuba for risking everything to bring freedom to the Cuban people.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 174—DESIG-
NATING APRIL 2021 AS "PARKIN-
SON'S AWARENESS MONTH"**

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. THUNE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 174

Whereas Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States;

Whereas, although there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, the disease is estimated to affect between 500,000 and 1,000,000 individuals in the United States, with that number expected to more than double by 2040;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parkinson's disease is the 15th leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas millions of individuals in the United States are greatly impacted by Parkinson's disease, including the caregivers, family members, and friends of individuals living with Parkinson's disease;

Whereas research suggests that the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, but the exact cause of the disease in most individuals is still unknown;

Whereas, as of March 2021, there is no objective test or biomarker with which to diagnose Parkinson's disease;

Whereas there is no known cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease, and available treatments are limited in their ability to address the medical needs of patients and remain effective over time;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and may include—

(1) tremors;

(2) slowness of movement and rigidity;

(3) problems with gait and balance;

(4) disturbances in speech and swallowing;

(5) cognitive impairment and dementia;

(6) mood disorders; and

(7) a variety of other nonmotor symptoms;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life of—

(1) individuals living with Parkinson's disease; and

(2) the families of those individuals; and

Whereas increased research, education, and community support services are needed—

(1) to find more effective treatments; and

(2) to provide access to quality care to individuals living with Parkinson's disease: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2021 as "Parkinson's Awareness Month";

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Parkinson's Awareness Month;

(3) continues to support research to find better treatments and a cure for Parkinson's disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals living with Parkinson's disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of the organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals across the United States who are working to improve the quality of life of—

(A) individuals living with Parkinson's disease; and

(B) the families of those individuals.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 175—SUP-
PORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF NATIONAL PUBLIC
HEALTH WEEK**

Mr. LUJÁN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 175

Whereas the week of April 5, 2021, is National Public Health Week;

Whereas the theme for National Public Health Week in 2021 is "Building Bridges to Better Health";

Whereas the goal of National Public Health Week in 2021 is to recognize the contributions of public health in—

(1) improving the health of the people of the United States; and

(2) achieving health equity;

Whereas, as of the date of introduction of this resolution, the United States and the global community are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, which requires support for—

(1) a robust public health infrastructure and workforce;

(2) State, territorial, local, and Tribal health departments, health care workers, public health laboratories, and first responders;

(3) diagnostic testing of new and potential COVID-19 cases and activities related to epidemiology and public health data;